

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
CONFIRMATION HEARING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017
7:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Councilmember President Yeargin called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Eugene Grant, Councilmember Charl Jones, Councilmember Lamar Maxwell, Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gloria Sistrunk, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, City Treasurer, Weyimi Ayu, Acting Director of Economic Development, Sharron Lipford, Acting Director of Public Engagement, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Devan Martin, Acting Chief of Police, Samuel Prue, Acting Director of Public Works, Kyrthlyn Rhoda, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, Jeannelle Wallace, Acting City Administrator

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Minister Angela Jenkins

2. PRESENTATION

2.1.1. Eugene W. Grant, Mayor

- Mayor Grant stated that in accordance to the Seat Pleasant City Charter, C-403 Powers and Duties of the Mayor he has selected and recommended candidates to fill the position of City Administrator, Chief of Police and Director of Public Works. The candidates have been serving in the capacity on an Acting basis since October 3, 2016. The City Council will have in their packets the resume, Five Accomplishments prior to serving with Seat Pleasant and Five Accomplishments while serving in the city. The candidates have three people to provide testimony on their behalves.
- Weyimi Ayu stated that he thanks the City Council for the opportunity to stand before them to fill the position of Economic Development Director.

Mr. Ayu stated that the City of Seat Pleasant had provided him with his first job after graduating college as the Nuisance and Abatement Coordinator. He graduated in the top 10 at Howard University School of Law. Mr. Ayu prepared the marketing presentation for the State of Maryland and Prince George's County to secure funding for the City. He is managing the Smart City Project with USDA as the Compliance Officer.

- Mr. Ayu stated that his goal for the City is to bring in higher-end retail to the City. He is working on creating a downtown Seat Pleasant.
- Mr. Ayu stated that he has a written recommendation and two verbal. The written recommendation has been provided to the City Council from Cecile Cunningham, Grant Manager, for the City of Seat Pleasant.
- Mr. Washington stated that he highly recommends Mr. Ayu for the position of Economic Development Director as he is knowledgeable about business. Mr. Washington stated that Mr. Ayu has assisted him with marketing business and provided with information to go further.
- Dr. Owolabi stated that Mr. Ayu is very talented and an excellent writer. He was very instrumental in getting his father pharmacy started. She stated that he is very intelligent and would be an asset to the City of Seat Pleasant. She stated that she wholeheartedly recommends him for the position of the Director of Economic Development.
- **Ms. Sharron Lipford, Acting Director of Public Engagement**
- Ms. Lipford thanked her guest for attending her confirmation hearing.
- Ms. Lipford thanked Mayor Grant for nominating her for the position of Director of Public Engagement.
- Ms. Lipford stated that she has BS and MA in Sports Management. She has experience in managing employees, time management, problem solving and payroll. She has learned day by day to apply her skills to her current position. The department will increase the community involvement. They will work to apply for grants and be responsible for rolling out the Smart Cities Technology to the community.
- Ms. Lipford stated that the department has engaged on a few new initiatives through partnership with Prince George's Community College to assist residents with learning new job skills. They have enrolled five individuals and one being from Seat Pleasant.
- Mr. Washington stated that Ms. Lipford has always excelled in everything she has done. Mr. Washington stated that Ms. Lipford is engaged in the community and he feels that she would do the same in Seat Pleasant.

- Ms. Joanne Coley stated that Ms. Lipford is a hard-working, dedicated, committed, reliable, trustworthy and an excellent leader. She stated that Ms. Lipford knows how to build relationships and has a creative, innovative mind.
- Mrs. Sharon Lipford read a reference letter from Sharron's god-mother, Shirley Hicks stated that Ms. Lipford is consistent.
- Mrs. Lipford stated that she is honored to be Sharron's mother. She stated you will not find a harder worker or more dedicated employee to fill the position of Director of Public Engagement.
- Mr. Ronald Lipford stated that Sharron is a team-player, innovative with integrity and morals.

3. MEETING TOPICS

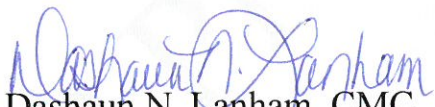
3.1.1. Confirmation of Department Heads

- It was motioned by Councilmember Sistrunk and seconded by Councilmember Jones to approve and confirm Weyimi Ayu as the Director of Economic Development for the City of Seat Pleasant. The motion carried and was unanimously approved by the City Council.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Stephenson and seconded by Councilmember Maxwell to approve and confirm Sharron Lipford as the Director of Public Engagement for the City of Seat Pleasant. The motion carried.
- FOR: Jones, Maxwell, Porter, Sistrunk, Stephenson and Yeargin
- ABSTAIN: McCarthy

Adjourn:

The Confirmation hearing adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC
City Clerk